



# THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GERMANS FROM RUSSIA

## Lincoln Chapter

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Volume III

May 1995

Issue V

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### Chapter Officers

*Larry Schenkel - President   Dale Dinges - 1st Vice President   John Stuertz - 2nd Vice President*

*Ann Reitz - Secretary   Lois Sorensen - Treasurer*

*Gladys Herstein - Corresponding Secretary   Delores Schwartz - Historian*

*Dale Dinges - Program Chairman -   John Stuertz - Membership Chairman*

*Shirley Robertson - Genealogy*

*Hugh Dobler - Newsletter*

*Dale Dinges - John Stuertz - Publicity*

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### Scheduled Coming Events:

*June 4, 1995 Lincoln Chapter Picnic*

1:00 P.M.

St John's Reformed Church. 1101 S. 26th

Pot Luck Dinner and Bingo

*June 13, 1995 LLCGS (Lincoln Lancaster County Genealogical Society)*

7:00 P.M.

Dick Administration Building (Lower Level) Union College Campus

*June 17, 1995 - PAF-LUG (Personal Ancestral File- Lincoln User's Group)*

7:00 P.M.

Family Service Center 3100 Old Cheney Road

*June 19, 1995 AHSGR Board Meeting*

7:00 P.M.

Conference Room -AHSGR Headquarters Bldg.

**July 23 -30 AHSGR Convention**

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

### Presidents Notes, Larry Schenkel:

My message starts with a heartfelt thank you to all, who gave so much of their time and effort to make the Kraut and Brei Dinner such a success. Some of the people were there from 9:00 a.m. to almost 9:00 p.m. which makes for a long day. Just saying thanks sounds so pitifully inadequate. I hope you know it comes from the heart.

I'm sorry I wasn't able to be there with you, but I had to take my Junior and Senior High School, Trap Shooters to the Nebraska High School Trap Tournament. My kids have to be my priority!

Of all the people who helped, I am going to single out one for special thanks. My wife said she would go in my place and help with the dishes. What a Woman! Thanks Norma!

By now you know we canceled the last noodle making. Our chair person for noodle making felt the weather was against us, what with all the humidity and rain.

On the 4th of June we will have our annual indoor pot luck picnic and bingo bash. Note the address. This is a new location so it may be unfamiliar to you. It will be held at St. John's Reformed Church at 1101 S. 26th St. We meet at 1:00 p.m. Bingo prizes will be provided by the chapter.

**"Spring is when you feel like  
whistling even with a shoe full of slush"**

**Larson**



**Editor's Notes:**

Finally , Spring is here but so are the visitors. Do you have a spare morning or afternoon to volunteer at Headquarters? You don't know how much that would be appreciated if you could help out one or two days during the month. You could be asked to give tours; to help with filing; do some light clerical work, or even do some light cleaning, whatever you would rather do. Please give Headquarters a call.

Have you registered for the Calgary Convention? Registrations are coming in fairly fast now that the convention is less than two months away! If you haven't sent in yours, its time to "get crackin'

We received some late registrants for our monthly recognition of birthdays and anniversaries, so this month we are including one name whose anniversary is in May. Keep those names coming! I'm always happy to see one or two more names that we can add to our list.

**UNSERE LEUTE**

**GEBURTSTAG (HAPPY BIRTHDAY)**

*June 4 Shirley Grauer*

*June 5 Carl Schmidt*

*June 6 Henry Sader III*

*June 9 Harold Bauer*

*June 14 Henry Kolb*

*June 16 Dorothy Schwartzkopf*

*June 16 Lydia Grasmick*

*June 23, John Fischer*

*June 25 Dana Rodriguez*

*June 25, Helen Schwartz*

**DER JARSTAG (HAPPY**

**ANNIVERSARY) Congratulations to:**

*Dana and Juan Rodriguez.....May 28, 1990*

*Victor and Lillian Weber.....June 1, 1946*

*Ben and Pauline Deines.....June 2, 1987*

*Sharon and Dennis Fiedler.....June 5*

*Laverne and Robert Heidtbrink.....June 6, 1954*

*Judith and Henry Sader III.....June 10, 1961*

*Alma and Phil Kehling.....June 14, 1959*

*Elinor and Rev. Fred Wolff.....June 15*

*Philomena and John Lebsock.....June 16, 1940*

*Dorothy and Ed Schwartzkopf.....June 16, 1946*

*Shirley and Gerald Grauer .....June 16, 1951*

*Norma and Larry Schenkel.....June 19, 1982*

*Lydia and Henry Grasmick.....June 21, 1942*

*Lillian and Ed Loos.....June 21, 1947*

*Marty and Scotty Kaufman.....June 22, 1947*

*Shirley and Jim Robertson.....June 27, 1981*

Don't forget to send in your names for inclusion of the birthdays and anniversary section each month

Send your requests to: **Hugh Dobler, 3747 Woods Ave. Lincoln, NE. 68510**

**"A kindness done today  
is the surest way  
to a brighter tomorrow"**



An excerpt of a recent letter addressed to AHSGR members was sent by Ed. Brandt from Minneapolis recently:

13 - 27th Ave. S E  
Minneapolis, MN 55414- 3101

Dear Fellow AHSGR members:

Enclosed is an announcement of the FEEFHS conference to be held in Calgary, on Tuesday, July 25, as well as more information about FEEFHS (Pronounced fiefs). We hope that you will attend the conference and would be glad to have both AHSGR chapters and individuals as members of FEEFHS. (There is more to the letter, but the editor would like you to be aware of this impending conference at the same time as AHSGR is having their convention).

(FEEFHS Federation of East European Family History Society is an organization recently started for those persons or organizations who are interested in furthering search of ancestors not only of Germans from Russia, but all other ethnic peoples, not only from Russia but all Eastern

From the California District Council Report:

#### AHNENSTAMMKARTEI

The "Leipzig Films"

900 + New Rolls at the Family History Library

Can't find where your elusive German ancestors came from in old Germany? It's worth one more look - and maybe this time you will find some of them.

The Ahnenstammkartei (commonly known as the "Leipzig Films") at the LDS Family History Library European Reference desk in Salt Lake City, UT. Adds 181 pages to the FHL catalog just to list one massive A -Z Surname index found on 621 microfilm rolls.

This is a major collection!

Part I is a massive A-to Z index. 621 microfilm rolls of surnames.

Part II is 250 films rolls containing an index on Ahnenstafein manuscript numbers by film number. These pedigrees cover the former German Empire, not just Leipzig.

You can get started on your "Leipzig Films" research at any LDS Family History Library. Some microfilm rolls may have already be available at local FHLs. If your particular film is not available locally, all you need to do is place an order for your selection.

#### PIED DE GRUE

(Reprint from CSGA Newsletter, March 1994.)

Do you know where the word pedigree comes from? It is from the old French pied de grue, which means "root of the crane. Genealogists often used a three line chart to illustrate a family tree, and to the onlookers (at that time), its appearance was like that of a bird's footprint.

Thus the word pedigree.

Here's a recipe all of you have been waiting for!

#### HEAVY BORSCH

1 lb. Soup beef and bone

1 Onion, chopped

1 can chopped beets and juice

1/2 c. Brown sugar

Salt and Pepper to taste

1 bouillon cube or 1 can of beef broth

2 c. Red cabbage, chopped (opt.)

1/2 c. Lemon juice

1 Egg, beaten

1/2 pt. Sour cream

Simmer soup bones and beef for at least three hours in 1- quart water, do not let boil dry. Remove bones and fat; add bouillon cube, onion and red cabbage. Cook for thirty minutes. Add beets and juice, lemon juice and brown sugar. Gradually add 1 cup hot soup to egg; stir. Put egg mixture in soup pot; stir. Add salt and pepper. Serve with sour cream.



**Continuing the thumbnail sketch of personnel at :  
The American Historical Society of Germans from Russia**

**ILENE BENNETT KIER**

Ilene was born in Nebraska City, Nebraska to Henry and Anna Sadona (Kleineweber) Bennett. She lived in Nebraska City for her first two years, then the family moved to Thurman, Iowa, where her father operated a farm. Until 1949. In that year the family moved to Burr, Nebraska, where her father continued to farm.

In 1953, the farm was sold, and the family returned to Nebraska City, with her father renting and owning land in Minersville Bottoms. (Today Minersville is just a dot on the map).

Her mother worked at Penelton Mills Factory, as a trouble shooter, because she could sew or mend anything, and make it look like there had never been any wrong stitching.

Ilene has three brothers and one sister. The oldest brother works for the telephone company. Her second brother drives an 18 wheeler and her third brother is employed by an asbestos company, removing asbestos all over the United States.

Her sister, Linda, was injured in an automobile accident when she was 19 years of age, and has lived with Ilene for the past 30 years.

Ilene graduated from Dunbar High School. After graduation she went to New York City, attending a teletyping school. After graduation, she continued to live in New York for another year, working as a teletypist.

Returning to Nebraska, she entered Nebraska Wesleyan, taking a course in Massage Therapy.

In 1965 she married the Chief of Police at Syracuse, Nebraska. From this union one child, Marla was born. The couple were later divorced.

Marla has three children, making Ilene grandmother three times over., which she says keeps her young!

In April 1976, she married Bernard Kiel, of Wymore, Nebraska at the Odd Fellows hall in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Bernard had three children from a previous marriage, a son and two daughters. The son was already married and gone from the home, one daughter died at the age of 15, and the other daughter, Kathleen, was 14 at the time of their marriage.

In April and July, 1976, both Bernard and Ilene adopted each others child. In this way the family became one unit, just as the girls wanted it to be.

Bernard passed away in 1985, after 30 years with the Burlington Railroad.

In all these years, Ilene had operated her own massage business out of their home, but with Bernard gone she lost interest in this work.

She decided to seek other work, working for a telemarketing firm for the next two years.

She then became an employee of the State of Nebraska in the Health Department, where she worked for one year. She also continued to do limited massage work in her home.

In August, 1992, Ilene came to work for the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia at Headquarters.

Her duties here are:

Entering data sent in by members in to the computer, so that eventually all members can research their families by computer rather than the old card file.

At the present time there are over 250,000 names in the computer.

The information contains the husbands name, his spouse, and their children, along with all the birth dates of the family, the marriage dates, and to whom, if applicable and the place and date death along with the place of burial for all.

At the present time the only notes entered are those of the immigration dates.

Some members send in copious notes on their families, which would eliminate much of the room within the computer for the essential information.

# 1995 AHSGR Convention



**July 23 - July 30, 1995**  
**Radisson Plaza Hotel**  
**Calgary**



**JUNE 4, 1995  
INDOOR PICNIC AND BINGO BASH  
POTLUCK DINNER  
1 P.M.  
ST. JOHN'S REFORMED CHURCH  
1101 S. 26TH ST.  
PRIZES AT OUR BINGO WILL BE AWARDED**

American Historical Society  
of Germans From Russia  
631 D Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68502-1199

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